

Message Text

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ACTION DOTE-00

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DEPT PASS USDOT FOR WALTER MCKENDRICK, FHWA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, ETRD, IR

SUBJ: SLOWDOWN IN ROADS/RAILROADS PROGRAM

REF: TEHRAN 5491

1. BIJAN MOWLAI, TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO UNDER SECRETARY PAKDAMEN OF MINISTRY OF ROADS, INFORMED EMBOFF THAT ALL NEW ROAD AND RAILROAD PROJECTS NOW ALREADY ON STREAM WILL BE DEFERRED FOR BUDGETARY REASONS UNTIL SIXTH PLAN (MARCH 21, 1978). MINISTRY ROADS AND TRANSPORT, IN ADDITION, HAS BEEN ORDERED BY PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION TO TRIM CURRENT YEAR BUDGET, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS ALREADY UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND OF PROJECTS IN SIGNED CONTRACT OR LETTER OF INTENT STATUS IS EXPECTED DURING COURSE FIFTH PLAN, THOUGH IN SOME CASES BUDGET AUTHORIZATION MAY BE DELAYED AS MUCH AS ONE YEAR. PROJECTS SCHEDULED FOR CONSTRUCTION PRIOR

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SIXTH PLAN INCLUDE: TURNKEY QOM-BANDAR BUSHIRE ROAD

AWARDED MORRISON KNUDSEN; TURNKEY DOUBLE ELECTRIFIED RAILROAD SEGMENTS TEHRAN-MASHAD, TEHRAN-TABRIZ, TABRIZ-JOLFA, TEHRAN-BANDAR SHAHPOUR AWARDED RESPECTIVELY TO JAPANESE, BRITISH, SOVIET AND FRENCH GROUPS; CONSTRUCTION MASHAD-ZAHEDAN ROAD AWARDED ITALSTRADE AND SCAPENEUS; AND CONSTRUCTION RAILROAD BANDAR ABBAS-GOL-E-GOHAR AWARDED ROMANIAN GROUP.

3. DESIGN OF SEVERAL MAJOR POSTPONED PROJECTS ALREADY COMPLETED OR UNDERWAY, AND ADDITIONAL MAJOR DESIGN AWARDS NOT EXPECTED UNTIL SIXTH PLAN.

4. CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT CONTRACT FOR WHICH SVEDRUP PARCEL AND 6 OTHER U.S. GROUPS SUBMITTED PROPOSALS CONSIDERED ON STREAM AND AWARD EXPECTED SHORTLY.

5. MOWLAI UNSURE IMPLICATION BUDGET RESTRICTIONS ON FHWA TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP. MINISTRY STRONGLY SUPPORTING IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION, BUT HAS RECEIVED NO RESPONSE RE BUDGET AUTHORIZATION FROM PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION.

6. REQUEST FHWA ADVISE INTERESTED CONTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING FIRMS OF SLOWDOWN IN MINISTRY PROJECTS.

7. COMMENT: REASON FOR SLOWDOWN OF PLANNED PROJECTS NOT STATED, THOUGH HIGHER-THAN-BUDGETED COSTS OF ON-STREAM PROJECTS IS ONE PROBABLE CAUSE.

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